

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 MMO-01 IO-11 /094 W

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R 201502Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 230

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 02640

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XB

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY

1. SUMMARY. ON THE EVE OF THE SOVIET PARTY CONGRESS, THE SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO BEAT THE DRUMS FOR ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY (ACS). WE EXPECT THAT THE IDEA WILL RECEIVE MAJOR TREATMENT AT THE CONGRESS, POSSIBLY INCLUDING A CALL FOR "CONCRETE STEPS" TO IMPLEMENT IT. END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA FEB 20 CARRIES AN ARTICLE FROM ULAN BATOR CALLED "AN IDEA ACHIEVES STRENGTH," PRAISING MOSCOW'S INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING A SYSTEM OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY AND REITERATING MONGOLIA'S "COMPLETE SUPPORT" FOR
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IT. THE ARTICLE SAYSTHAT MONGOLIA "WILL DO ALL THAT

DEPENDS UPON IT TO BRING THIS IDEA TO LIFE," AND IS PREPARED" TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN COLLECTIVE EFFORTS" TOWARD THE FINAL RESULT OF WORKING OUT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DECISIONS. THE ARTICLE ROUTINELY DENOUNCES PEKING'S OPPOSITION TO THE SCHEME.

3. IZVESTIYA FEB 19 CARRIES A COMMENTARY BY V. SKOSYREV DENOUNCING U.S. PLANS TO BUILD A MILITARY BASE ON DIEGO GARCIA. THE ITEM CHARGES THAT U.S. ACTIVITIES ARE INTENDED TO INTIMIDATE INDIA AND THE OPEC STATES AND CONCLUDES THAT THE CLIMATE IN ASIA AFTER THE "LIBERATION" OF VIETNAM IS CONDUCTIVE TO THE IDEA OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY.

4. THE ARTICLE IN KRASNAYA ZVEZDA FEB 18 ON THE U.S. NEW PACIFIC DOCTRINE (MOSCOW 2567) CONTAINED ONE PHRASE SAYING THAT THE PEOPLE OF ASIA ARE LOOKING NOT TOWARD MILITARY BLOCS BUT TOWARD COLLECTIVE SECURITY.

5. COMMENT. THESE ARTICLES ADD NOTHING NEW TO RECENT SOVIET COMMENTARY ON ACS, AND THE MONGOLIANS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE SOVIET SPEAR CARRIERS ON THIS ISSUE. BUT COMING SO SOON BEFORE THE SOVIET 25TH PARTY CONGRESS, THIS COVERAGE ADDS TO EARLIER INDICATIONS THAT THE IDEA WILL BE ONE OF THE CENTRAL PARTS OF THE PRESENTATION IN ASIA, POSSIBLY INCLUDING A CALL FOR "CONCRETE MEASURES." THE SOVIETS MAY EVEN CALL FOR THE CONVENING OF A CONFERENCE (A CSCA), BUT WE DOUBT THAT THEY WILL TRY TO SPECIFY DATES OR PARTICIPANTS.
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